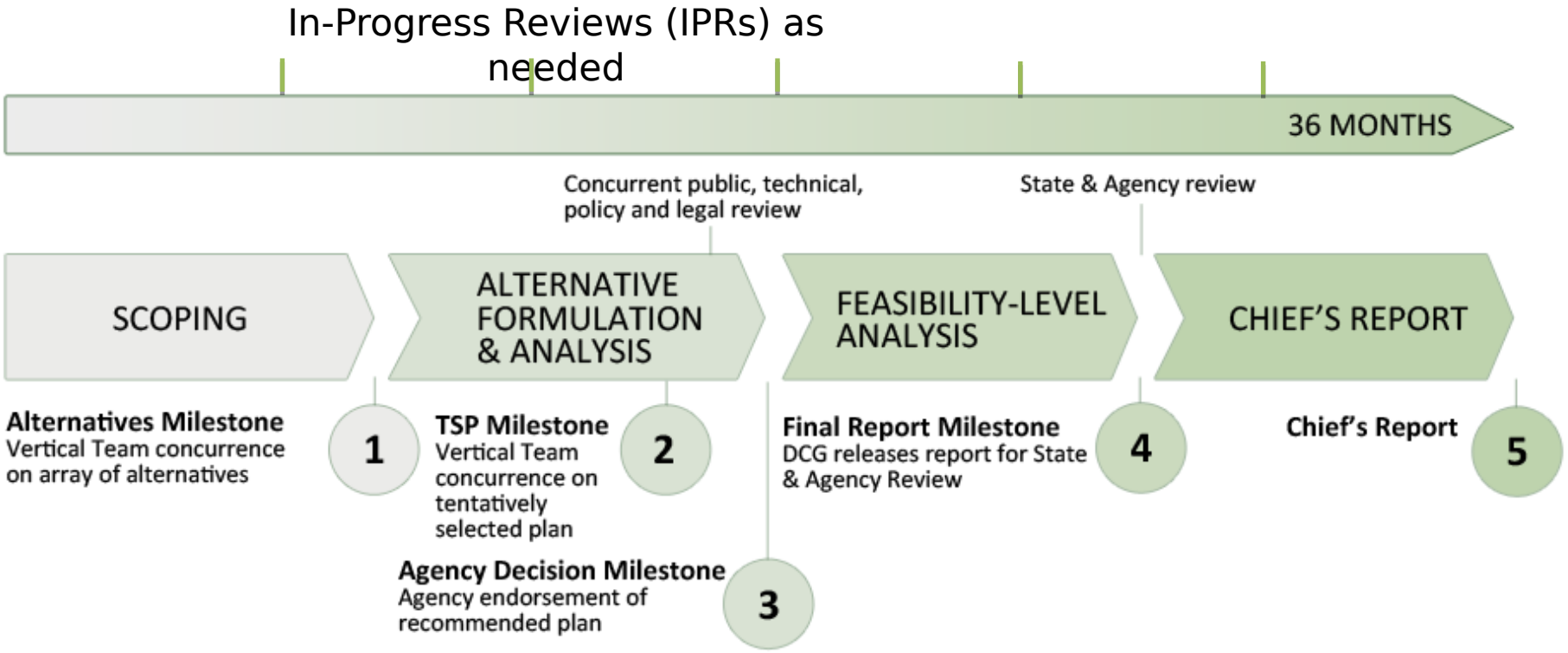
Civil Works Transformation

SMART Feasibility Studies

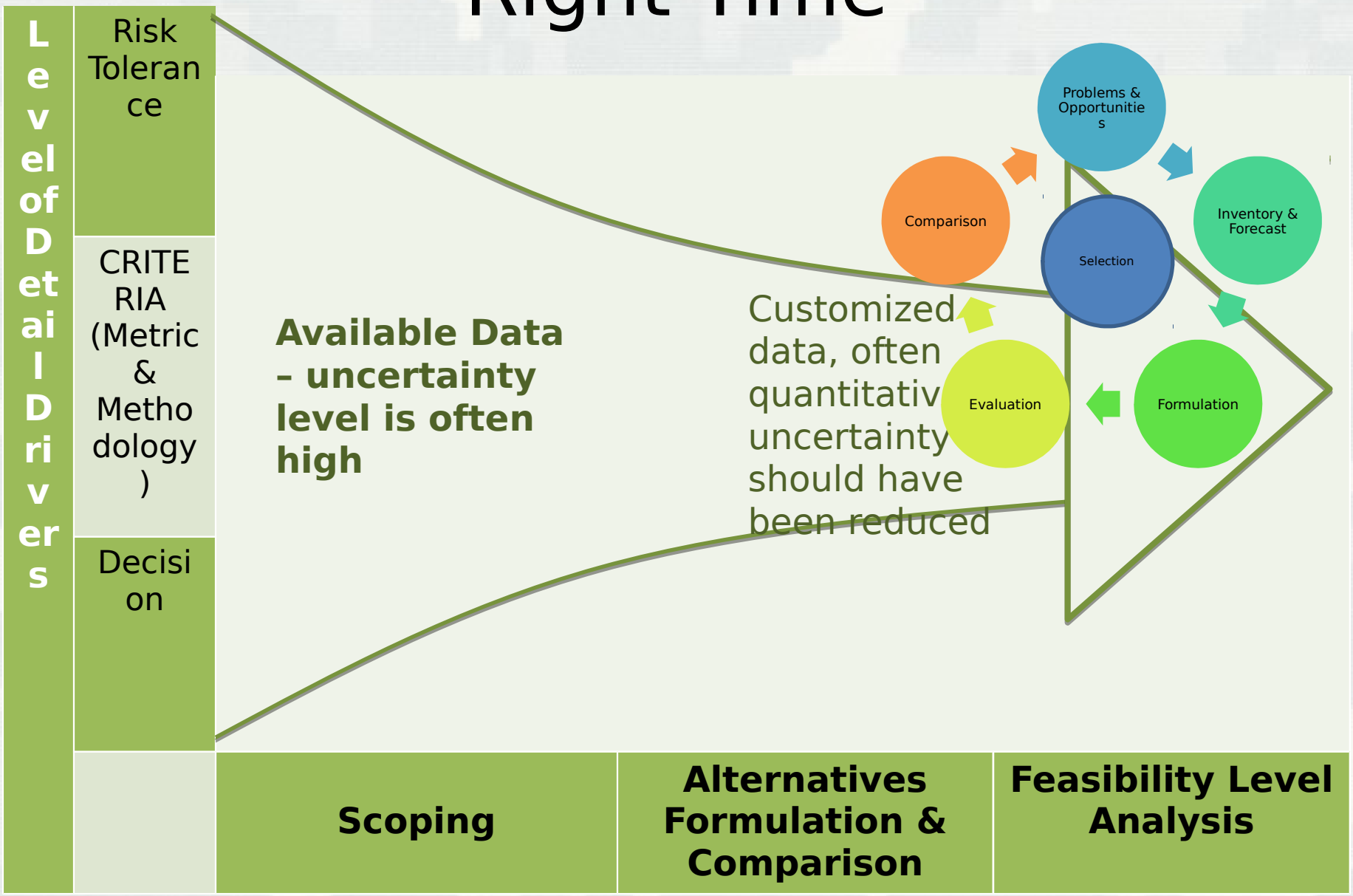
Milestones & Process

US Army Corps of Engineers
PLANNING SMART
BUILDING STRONG®

SMART Feasibility Study Process



The Right Level of Detail at the Right Time



At Every Step

- Communicate with Vertical Team throughout process, not just at Milestones
- Document and share decisions made by PDT and Vertical Team
- Think critically – Can we make a decision with what we know now?

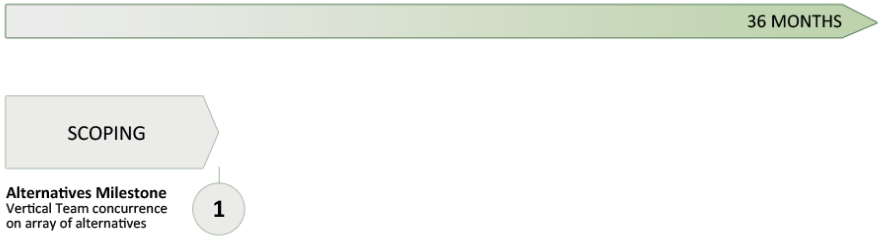
Tools for SMART Planning

- Planning Charette –intensive workshop bringing together Study Team and Vertical Team
- In Progress Reviews and other Team Meetings
- Decision Management Plan – maps path to the next major study decision
- Risk Register – documents study and project uncertainty / risk so it can be managed
- Decision Log
- Examples, Tips, Tools & Techniques on the Planning SMART Guide

Scoping → Alternatives Milestone

1. Encourage public and agency input and interaction. If EIS will be required, issue public NOI & scoping meeting.
2. Accelerate the process with a facilitated Planning Charette with PDT, Vertical Team, non-federal sponsor, USACE expertise as appropriate to address issues and other key stakeholders.

- Endangered Species?
- Real Estate?
- Cultural?
- Air Quality?
- Water Quality?
- Wetlands?
- Socio-Economics?
- Environmental Justice?
- Hazardous, Toxic, Radioactive Waste?
- Value Engineering?



d array of alternatives
tep planning process.

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Scoping → Alternatives Milestone

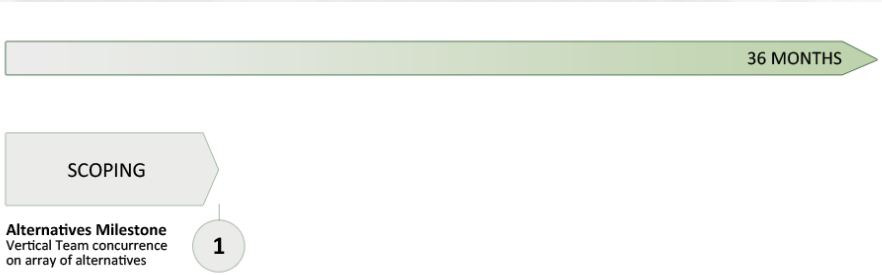
4. **Alternatives Milestone:** VT **confirms** array of alternatives and the criteria the PDT will use for evaluation and comparison.

Report Synopsis

- Decisions to Date

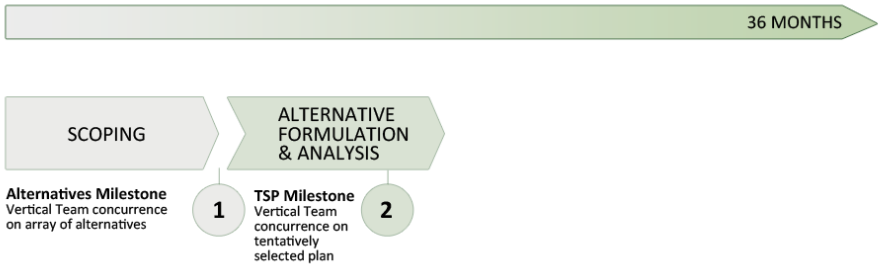
Tools & Information

- Decision Management Plan
- Risk Register
- Decision Log
- Review plan



Alternatives Formulation & Analysis → TSP & Agency Decision Milestones

1. PDT uses the models / data needed to reduce unacceptable uncertainty in plan evaluation and comparison.
2. **TSP Milestone:** VT confirms the tentatively selected plan recommended by the PDT.
3. Public Review: Draft feasibility report released, including evaluation analysis and draft recommendation.
4. Agency Review: ATR, IEPR (if needed). HQ Policy
   [illegible]'s legal review



Alternatives Formulation & Analysis → TSP & Agency Decision Milestones

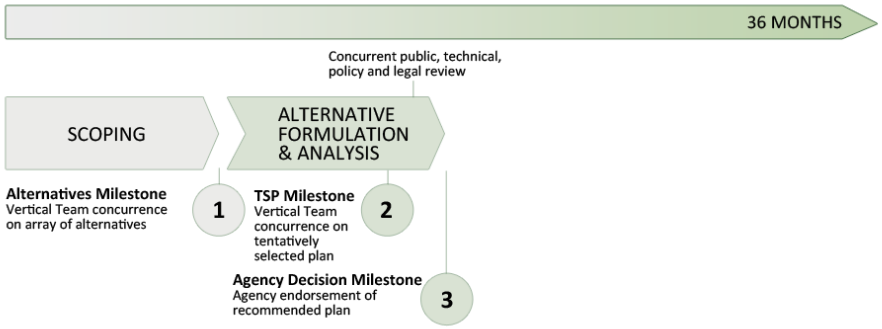
5. PDT updates draft feasibility report in response to public and agency review.
6. **Agency Decision Milestone:** Senior HQUSACE Leadership endorses recommended plan for feasibility-level design

Draft Report

- Recommended Plan

Tools & Information

- Risk Register
- Decision Management Plan
- Decision Log
- Review plan



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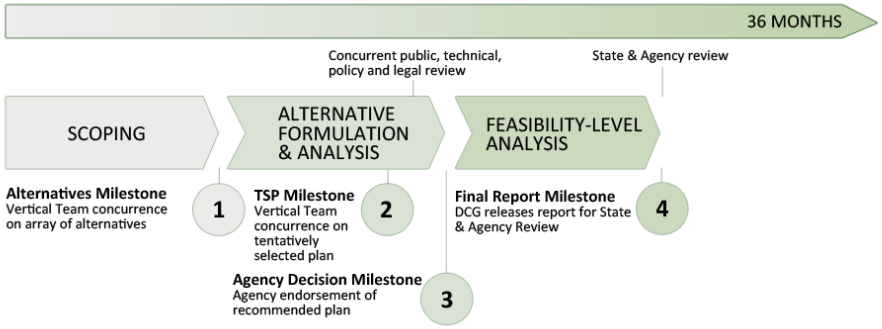
Feasibility Level Analysis → Final Report Milestone

1. PDT addresses comments from HQUSACE Leadership and scales measures of the recommended alternative, reducing project and study uncertainty, completes the report.
2. **Final Report Milestone:** DCG-CEO briefed on recommendation and releases Final Report for State and Agency Review.



Feasibility Level Analysis → Final Report Milestone

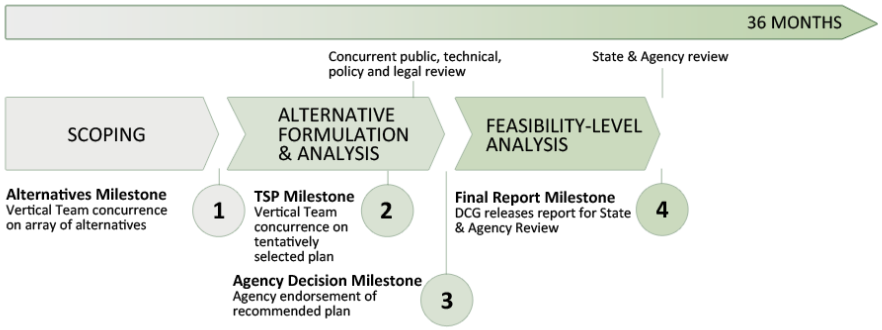
3. Division Engineer Notice of final recommendation.
4. Final EIS (or FONSI) published.

Feasibility Report

- Study
- Decisions to Date

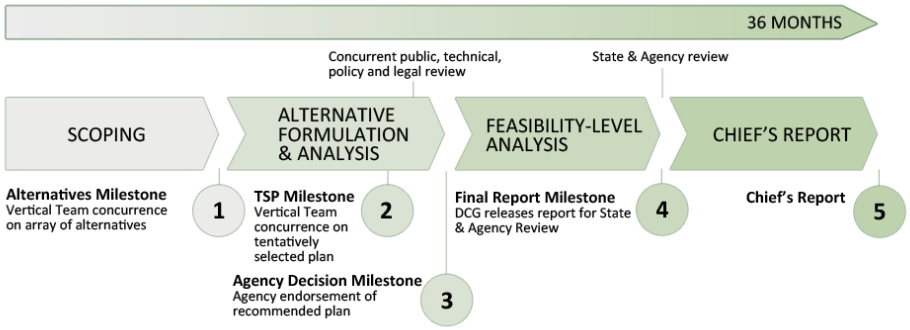
Tools & Information

- Risk Register
- Decision Log
- Review plan



Final Feasibility Study Report → Chief's Report Milestone

1. PDT finalizes the feasibility study report, addressing state and agency comments.
2. Policy Review & Legal Certification.
3. Chief's Report prepared.
4. **Chief's Report Milestone:** Chief signs the report.
5. Record of Decision prepared.



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The Results

- “No Surprise” Reviews
- Increased Trust and Cooperation
- Studies completed in a more reasonable amount of time
- Studies cost significantly less
- High quality and concise decision documents
- Decisions informed by managing risk and acknowledging uncertainty
- Strong, viable Civil Works Project portfolio developed

Planning SMART Guide

Published online at www.corpsplanning.us – allows for timely content updates

- Feasibility Study Phases
  - Scoping
  - Alternative Formulation & Analysis
  - Feasibility-Level Design
  - Chief's Report

- SMART Planning Tips & Tools
  - Tips for Highly Effective Studies
  - Business Line Guides
  - Risk Register Template
  - Decision Log
  - Report Synopsis Example
  - 100-Page Report Example
  - Review Primer
  - And more!